

CHAPTER 9

SHIPMENT PROCEDURES FOR **PRIVATELY-OWNED** FIREARMS

9000. Purpose. This chapter provides policies and procedures for movement of a member's privately-owned firearms (**POFs**), both interstate and import/export to and from the United States.

9001. Limitations and Prohibitions.

a. Members desiring to transport or ship a National Firearms Act (reference (n)) firearm or a destructive device in interstate or **foreign** commerce must receive written permission from the Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (**ATF**), Washington, DC 20026.

b. The transport of any type muffling device or silencer for a firearm is prohibited from shipment.

c. Any weapon or device from which an explosive charge may be expelled while concealed on the person is prohibited from shipment.

9002. Authorization.

a. Shipment of Firearms Within CONUS. Members are authorized to ship all conventional firearms, antique firearms, war trophies, and surplus military firearms, provided the owner is in possession of appropriate licenses and permits or documentation required by law.

b. Exportation of Firearms from the United States. Members are authorized to export all conventional firearms, antique firearms, war trophies, and surplus military firearms, provided the owner is in possession of appropriate licenses, permits, and documentation. All shipments are subject to the restrictions or limitations of each destination area that are published in the **PPCIG** and respective military service regulations.

c. Importation of Firearms to the United States.

(1) Military members are authorized to import to the United States all firearms previously taken out of the United States by the member and those firearms acquired while overseas for the member's personal use. The member may import war trophies and surplus military firearms if authorized by the member's respective military service. Importation shall be to the member's place of residence. and shall comply with those State and local ordinances.

(2) DOD civilian employees are authorized to import to the United States only those firearms that have been certified by US Customs and have been taken overseas by the employees. Firearms acquired by the employee while overseas may not be imported directly to the United States. The employee shall contact an authorized dealer in his or her State of residence in the United States to act in his or her behalf to obtain a permit for importation, after which the employee may obtain the firearm directly from the dealer.

9003. Responsibilities of Members. Members shall:

a. Obtain and provide copies, upon request, of documentation authorizations, individual licenses, or registration forms for the firearms to be shipped as a part of an authorized personal property shipment.

b. Ensure all applicable laws and regulations of the U.S., **foreign** countries, and municipalities are complied with regarding the possession, carrying, registration, and shipment of POFS. Military members are also subject to respective military service-prescribed limitations and regulations.

c. Ensure all firearms are free of explosive charges when turned-over for shipment.

9004. Application for Shipment of Firearms. A separate DD Form 1299 shall be executed when the firearm is not to be packed and shipped with the **HHG** or UB. The make, model, caliber, and serial number of all firearms to be shipped shall be listed on the shipment inventory, whether shipped separately or as a part of HHG or UB. It is advisable for the member to obtain a Customs Form 4457 (Certificate of Registration) from the nearest US Customs office before shipment from the United States as proof of ownership in the United States. Upon reentry to U.S. Customs territory, the member shall provide proof of ownership in the United States. The statement "This shipment contains firearms" shall be placed in the Description of Articles block on the PPGBL.

9005. Shipment by ITGBL or DPM.

a. When either **ITGBL** or DPM is used, the carrier or contractor shall inventory, identify, and pack at the member's residence. Under no circumstances may a carrier or contractor remove firearms from a residence to a warehouse or other facility to prepare them for shipment.

b. Under federal law, the carrier or contractor shall be notified that firearms are being transported.

c. Authorized firearms may be included in accompanied baggage that is not accessible to the owner and is transported in the cargo compartment of the aircraft or vessel.

d. Firearms shall be placed in the number 1 external shipping container positioned so that they are readily accessible for examination by customs when required. The container will be closed at the member's residence.

9006. Shipment by MAC.

a. Policies and procedures for the transport of firearms by MAC aircraft are outlined in MAC Manual 76-1.

b. Unless restricted by foreign governments, members may carry unloaded, unprohibited firearms in stowed baggage upon declaration of those firearms to MAC passenger service personnel.

c. Firearms accepted for transport shall be cleared of all ammunition and placed in stowed baggage or in the custody of the aircraft commander's representative during the flight.

d. Individual firearms may be transported as stowed baggage when encased in a suitable gun container and documented as part of the passenger's authorized baggage allowance.

9007. Shipment through the US Postal **Service**.

a. The US Postal Service may be used as an alternate method of shipment of handguns and other firearms when offered as an official shipment between personal property shipping offices (**PPSOs**).

b. Registered mail is required for these shipments.

c. Consignment Guide instructions apply.

d. Include with the weapons, an approved ATF Form 6, Part II, and ATF Form 6A, if required, under the provisions of DOD 5030.49R, Customs Inspections Regulation for those shipments entering the continental United States (CONUS). Additionally, a PS Form 2966-A, Parcel Post Customs Declaration, must be prepared and affixed to the parcel. The PS Form 2966-A should be redlined unless the shipment complies with US Customs certification procedures, i.e., acceptable proof of prior ownership in the United States, the three-firearm limitation exception or whether firearm is subject to duty.

e. Mailings from an APO or FPO cannot exceed 70 pounds in weight and 100 inches in length and girth combined. Mailings from the 48 contiguous states cannot exceed 15 pounds in weight and not more than 60 inches in length and girth combined.

f. Due to complications that may arise with this method of shipment, **PPSOs** must **limit** use of this service to those situations where the member has departed the area and the shipment could not otherwise be handled through

normal shipping methods. Problems which may occur are: lack of adequate storage capability at the destination **PPSOs**, inability to effect tracer action until 60 days after shipment was made, and **postal** service liability rules.

9008. Reporting Discrepancies. Carriers, PPSOS, and members discovering theft, attempted theft, or **nonreceipt** of firearms shall report the incident immediately to their activity commander and by message to **HQMTMC**, ATTN: MTSS and MTPP. This report shall contain the origin and destination of the shipment; the member's name, - rank, and **military service; a description and** serial number of the firearm; law enforcement agencies notified; and **all** other information concerning the incident. DOD components **.shall** establish procedures to ensure appropriate information is submitted through provost marshal or security officer channels to the National Crime Information Center and to the DOD central registry upon discovery of loss, theft, or recovery of lost or stolen firearms.